

20 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

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Friday, the 20th April, 2001/30 Chaitra, 1923 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the Clock, Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

NABARD Assistance for Cold Storage Units in Karnataka

*501. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has sought financial assistance from National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development to establish cold storage Units in rural areas of the State;

(b) if so, the amount of financial assistance sought for;

(c) the action, if any, taken in this regard; and

(d) how many cold storage units are proposed to be set-up in rural areas of the State to preserve agricultural and horticultural produce?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) The Karnataka Government has not sought any financial assistance from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for construction of cold storage in the rural areas of the State under the "Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Construction/Expansion/Modernisation of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Produce" being implemented by the National Horticulture Board (NHB). However, NABARD has received 9 projects for approval from Banks under the said NHB Scheme of private entrepreneurs for establishment of cold storages in Karnataka, out of which 7 projects have been sanctioned involving a capacity creation of 25900 metric tonnes. All these sanctioned

projects are proposed to be set up in rural areas. The component of bank loan of the sanctioned projects is Rs. 6.21 crores and NABARD will provide a refinance @ 90% of the bank loan i.e. Rs. 5.59 crores to the banks. The subsidy component eligible under the above mentioned capital subsidy scheme would be Rs. 2.84 crores. In respect of remaining two proposals NABARD after scrutiny have asked for additional information from the concerned banks. In addition NHB has sanctioned one project for being set up in Karnataka of 1000 metric tonne capacity for which a subsidy of Rs. 10 lakhs has already been provided by the NHB.

SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Sir, horticulture and floriculture are the major alternative land users, next to agriculture. Particularly in Karnataka, horticulture and floriculture are the fast growing sectors. Sir, nearly 20 varieties of fruits and flowers are being grown, and they are being directly exported. It includes new varieties of fruits, namely, pomegranate, banana, *ber* (बेर), anjur, *Chikoo*, etc. These varieties have been developed by farmers on their own capacity and in their own interest. They are growing them on their own. But, unfortunately, the Department is not providing them any infrastructure. For example, Sir, after growing the fruits, the Department should educate these farmers about grading them. It should at least provide them with the facility of cold storage and transportation in refrigerated vans, and also assist them in the exports. I want to know whether the Government is thinking of setting up Horticultural Parks on the lines of Information Technology Parks, at least one in each district so that they are provided with all the infrastructure for storing the fruits and flowers for export purposes.

श्री नीतीश कुमार : सभापति महोदय, सरकार की इस प्रकार की कई योजनाएं हैं जहां हॉर्टिकल्चर डेवलप है, वहां लोगों की सहायता करने के लिए और हॉर्टिकल्चर क्रॉप्स को डेवलप करने के लिए, उसके लिए ग्रेडिंग, सॉर्टिंग, ड्राईंग, पैकेजिंग सबके लिए कई प्रकार की योजनाएं चलती हैं। नेशनल हॉर्टिकल्चर बोर्ड की एक योजना है, यह भी कैपिटल इनवेस्टमेंट सबसिडी स्कीम के तौर पर ही है। इसके खास कंपोनेंट्स हैं—ग्री कूलिंग यूनिट्स, कोल्ड स्टोर्स का निर्माण, उसमें refrigerated van containers, specialised transport vehicles, retail outlets, auction Platform, primary processing of products, grading, washing, sorting, drying, packaging centres, इन

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सबके लिए योजना हमारे पास है, नेशनल हॉर्टिकल्चर बोर्ड की योजना है। इसमें टोटल प्रोजेक्ट कॉस्ट का 20 परसेंट सबसिडी के तौर पर दिया जाता है और इसके अलावा जो कोल्ड स्टोरेज की स्कीम है, इसमें सभी चीजों को जैसे हॉर्टिकल्चर प्रोड्यूस को रखा जा सकता है, यह मल्टी चैम्बर कोल्ड स्टोरेज है, कैपिटल इनवेस्टमेंट सबसिडी स्कीम, बैंक इंडेंट सबसिडी सहायता दी जाती है जिसके बारे में मूल प्रश्न के उत्तर में मैंने जानकारी दी है।

SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Sir, the Karnataka Government has sent a proposal to set up model Horticultural Technology Park. I would like to know whether the Government has received this proposal. If so, whether Government will send its team, at least, to assess what is happening there for the last three years, and to know what is the development in the horticulture and floriculture areas since the last three years, so that the Government can think of exploiting the export potential in these areas.

श्री नीतीश कुमार : सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो मूल प्रश्न पूछा है, यह मूल प्रश्न डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ एग्रीकल्चर से संबंधित है। अभी जो उन्होंने सप्लीमेंटरी प्रश्न पूछा है, यह डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ फूड प्रोसेसिंग से संबंधित है। उसके बारे में मुझे जानकारी है क्योंकि यह मेरी मिनिस्ट्री का ही हिस्सा है इसलिए हम उनको बताना चाहते हैं कि फूड पार्क के लिए, फूड प्रोसेसिंग इंडस्ट्रियल स्टेट बनाने के लिए कॉमन फैसिलिटी और इनफ्रास्ट्रक्चर डेवलप करने के लिए यह योजना है, 4 करोड़ रुपए तक की सहायता दी जाती है और जहां से भी प्रस्ताव आता है, वहां पर उसके बारे में विचार किया जाता है। कर्नाटक के बारे में भी कुछ निर्णय इस संबंध में लिया गया है।

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI: Sir, I am sure the hon. Minister is aware that in most of the districts in Karnataka, they have developed a number of varieties of horticulture, particularly grapes. Because of shortage of cold storage, they are to take their produce to Maharashtra border areas where cold storage is available. Sir, the hon. Minister says seven private units have been granted subsidy for the purpose. I would like to know the names of those seven private entrepreneurs.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Sir, the names of the sanctioned schemes are as follows: Sameshwara Cold Storage in Haveri district, S.V.

Cold Storage in the same district; Siddh Lingeswara Cold Storage in the same district; Basava Vishveshwara Agri-tech Cold Storage in Hubli; Sai Cold Storage in Ballary District; Gauri Shankar Cold Storage in Ballary District. Two more are under the pipeline. Those are, Deep Cold Storage in the district of Bijapur, and Sagar Ice Cold Storage in the district of Gulbarga.

Orders for Wagons

*502. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of wagons (FWUs) ordered for 2001-2002; and
- (b) the detailed allocation of orders on wagon-manufacturers both in public and private sector?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Contracts for the year for 2001-2002 are yet to be placed. A part quantity of 2460 in terms of four wheeler units for 2001-2002 has however been released under +30% option clause against 2000-2001 contracts both in public & private sectors as under:—

(Figures in four wheeler units)

Wagon builders	Quantity ordered
Bharat Wagon & Engg. Ltd./Muzaffarpur	435
Bharat Wagon & Engg. Ltd./Mokameh	217.5
Burn Standard Co. Ltd./Burnpur	440
Burn Standard Co. Ltd./Howrah	297.5
Jessops & Co. Ltd./Calcutta	120
Bridge & Roof Co. Ltd./Calcutta	37.5
TOTAL PUBLIC SECTOR UNITS	1547.5